

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A valve for use in a Christmas tree watering system, comprising;
a housing having an upper portion, a water inlet in said upper portion and a perforated bottom surface;
a lift valve mounted in said housing and having a circular valve seat between said water inlet and said perforated bottom surface;
a valve disc mounted between said water inlet and said valve seat and a valve stem extending from said valve disc through said valve seat; and
means to raise and lower said valve disc in response to a water level in said housing;
said valve seat having a first vertical axis and said water inlet having a second vertical axis and said first and second vertical axes being parallel to each other and spaced apart a distance corresponding substantially to a radius of said valve seat.
2. The valve as claimed in **claim 1**, wherein said housing comprises a clip having a hook thereon for attachment to the rim of a Christmas tree stand.
3. The valve as claimed in **claim 2**, wherein said clip is detachably fastened to said housing by ridge and groove engagements.
4. The valve as claimed in **claim 2** wherein said housing has two separable halves and said clip encloses said two halves to retain said two halves together.

5. The valve as claimed in **claim 1** wherein said means to raise and lower said valve disc comprises a float.
6. The valve as claimed in **claim 5** wherein said housing comprises a float guiding cavity and said float is movably mounted in said float guiding cavity.
7. The valve as claimed in **claim 6**, wherein said means to raise and lower said valve disc also comprises a rocker arm pivotally mounted to said housing and engaged with said float and said valve stem.
8. The valve as claimed in **claim 7**, wherein said rocker arm has a rounded end and said float has a socket, and said rounded end is mounted in said socket, whereby a movement of said float is transmitted to said rocker arm.
9. The valve as claimed in **claim 8**, wherein said rocker arm has a clevis end and said valve stem has a thick end, and said thick end is pivotally engaged with said clevis end, whereby a movement of said rocker arm is transmitted to said valve stem and said valve disc.
10. The valve as claimed in **claim 9**, wherein said two separable halves comprises an upper half and a lower half, and said lift valve, said float guiding cavity, said float and said rocker arm are mounted in said upper half.

11. The valve as claimed in **claim 10**, wherein said upper half has a pair of holed tabs therein and said rocker arm has a transverse shaft pivotally mounted in said pair of holed tabs.
12. The valve as claimed in **claim 1**, wherein said valve disc has a seep hole there through.
13. The valve as claimed in **claim 6**, wherein said float guiding cavity has a vent hole there through.
14. The valve as claimed in **claim 1**, wherein said water inlet comprises a hose nipple.
15. A valve for use in a Christmas tree watering system, comprising
a housing having an upper half, a water inlet in said upper half, and
a lower half;
a lift valve having and a circular valve seat between said water inlet
and said lower half; a valve disc mounted between said water
inlet and said valve seat and a valve stem extending from
said valve disc through said valve seat;
means to raise and lower said valve disc in response to a water level
in said housing;
said valve seat having a first vertical axis and said water inlet
having a second vertical axis and said first and second
vertical axes being spaced apart and parallel to each other;
and
means to selectively move said valve disc away from said second
vertical axis.

16. The valve as claimed in **claim 15** wherein said means to raise and lower said valve disc comprises a float and a rocker arm pivotally connected to said housing, to said float and to said valve stem for a seesaw movement between said float and said valve stem.
17. The valve as claimed in **claim 16**, wherein said rocker arm has a clevis on one end thereof, said valve stem is pivotally mounted in said clevis and said means to selectively move said valve disc comprises a stud on said rocker arm adjacent said clevis interfering with said valve stem and blocking a movement of said valve stem in said clevis.
18. The valve as claimed in **claim 15**, wherein said second vertical axis is offset from said first vertical axis a distance equivalent to a radius of said valve seat.
19. A valve for use in a Christmas tree watering system, comprising
a housing having an upper half, a water inlet in said upper half, and
a lower half;
a lift valve having a circular valve seat between said water inlet and
said lower half; a valve disc mounted between said water
inlet and said valve seat and a valve stem extending from
said valve disc through said valve seat;
means to raise and lower said valve disc in response to a water level
in said housing;
said valve seat having a first vertical axis and said water inlet
having a second vertical axis and said first and second
vertical axes being parallel to each other and spaced apart a
distance corresponding to a radius of said valve seat; and

means to offset said valve disc from said second vertical axis, and
away from said first vertical axis.

- 20.** The valve as claimed in **claim 15**, wherein said means to offset said valve disc comprises means to lean said valve stem away from said first vertical axis.